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14 MR. McCracken: Well, good evening. My name is
15 SEP 27 1999 Ralph McCracken, a local farmer, resident, whatever else you
16 want to call me.

17 In a nutshell, what you're offering us here is
18 leaky containers in a leaky mountain in a bad setting.

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19 The truck drivers that transport this stuff have
20 a limited amount of time they can be in front of these
21 containers. Why? Because they the containers leak. They do
22 not provide containment.

23 If they were perfect, the truck driver would be
24 able to be with his truck an unlimited amount of time each day.
25 Therefore, we have a leaky containers.

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1 We have a leaky mountain. It's faulted. The
2 original criteria said the mountain will not be faulted, but oh
3 well, they decided that we can live with the faults.

4 Well, still to meet the original criteria the
5 mountain's supposed to stand up to.

6 Furthermore, when there was drilling through the
7 tunnel, they found moisture. They found water in the mountain.
8 It was supposed to be a dry mountain.

9 When it drained when they're inside the tunnel,
10 they found leakage. They found water coming from the current
11 precipitation into the tunnel.

12 This is not -- this information is publicly
13 available information. This is not something they've put under
14 wraps.

3...

15 Furthermore, you heard about volcanism. Well,
16 that translates to volcanic activity nearby. Well, the water
17 comes out of my wells is 70 degrees. That's warm for
18 subterranean warm.

19 It says there's current volcanic activity, and my
20 well is not the only well in the valley. In fact, it's very
21 typical of the temperature of the water comes out of the
22 ground.

23 And right next to Yucca Mountain, which no one
24 seems to talk about, where the cinder cone mining is, well, the
25 cinder cone where they're mining, where they're taking cinders

3 cont. 1 out a recent volcanic upheaval of lava which formed the cinder
2 cone.

3 You can look at Yucca Mountain and you look
4 slightly to the right or the east and there's very volcano
5 sitting there.

6 It's not something that the average geologist
7 should be able to miss.

8 Enough on the actual mountain, why this site
9 should be deemed unsuitable to anybody who wants to look at the
10 facts and figures of the situation.

4... 11 Other reasons that we should not have this here
12 is that this is a farming community. We raise products here,
13 some of them which are actually concentrators of radionuclides,
14 nuts, particularly pistachio nuts.

15 When Steve Frischman took this information in the
16 form of pictures and a video to some meeting of some -- I don't
17 want to insult them. I call them gray-haired experts and he
18 was slotted for five minutes of presentation, they came awake,
19 they sat up, they took notes.

20 They held him in excess of forty minutes, and I
21 don't know how much further than that to discuss, and then they
22 scheduled a tour out here to take a look firsthand at what was
23 happening, what was around this place called Yucca Mountain.

4 cont. 24 We have one organic producer of pistachios in
25 this valley who is currently building a processing facility so

4 cont.

1 that he can produce and control and not have his nuts mix with
2 other inorganic producers.

3 Stigma is tough to measure. Stigma, I don't
4 believe that word even occurs in your EIS statements, and yet
5 that's a very real phenomenon.

6 In the dairy industry, one of the main thoughts
7 that promulgated organic milk was the use of hormones to
8 stimulate milk production, and people said, "No, wait. We
9 don't want that in our milk," and therefore they have sought
10 out sources of milk that don't contain those hormones because
11 of the stigma of it.

12 I raise pistachios. I raise pomegranates. I
13 raise hay, and when I look out my bedroom window, I see Yucca
14 Mountain. There's literally nothing between it and me.

15 Originally I felt that okay. I'm not going to
16 take the I'm against Yucca Mountain decision. I'm going to
17 take the well, if they do it right, I can get along with it,
18 but I don't see it being done right.

5

19 I don't see the preliminary evaluations being
20 conducted in a manner where it could be called it was done
21 right or correct.

6

22 We currently have a -- a battle of how much
23 emissions, how much leakage is going to be acceptable. The NRC
24 says one thing and the EPA says another.

25 MR. BROWN: Five minutes.

1 MR. McCRACKEN: All right. I'll wrap up in a
2 couple more minutes.

3 MR. BROWN: All right. Thank you.

7

4 MR. McCRACKEN: The money that could be saved by
5 designing to the lesser standard or the higher emissions is in
6 the billions of dollars.

7 I suggest to them -- them, the government, all of
8 you people and more, too, look at the potential economics of
9 paying every man, woman, child here in the valley a million
10 bucks a piece, providing them with fair market value or even
11 extraordinary market value for their properties, project the
12 business incomes of the businesses that are here, buy everybody
13 out and you'd be millions -- billions of dollars ahead of where
14 you're headed.

15 I could probably come up with another forty
16 minutes if I had the time and prepared for it, but I'm not
17 going to.

8

18 I will be providing written comments, and my
19 recommendation to the Secretary of Interior -- I believe that's
20 the gentleman who has to present this whole package to the
21 president -- is that no action be taken on Yucca Mountain, that
22 it not be considered as suitable for a repository.

23 Thank you.

24 MS. DIXON: Thank you for your comments.

25 MR. BROWN: Thanks very much.

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Our next speaker is Corbin Harney.

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